

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SOFIA 01888 171206Z

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SUBJECT: POLICY ARTICLE ON BULGARO-GREEK RELATIONS

REF: SOFIA 1420

1. RABOTNICHESKO DELO OCT 10 CONTAINED LENGTHY ARTICLE ON BULGARO-GREEK RELATIONS TRYING TO DEMONSTRATE AN UNWAVERING CONTINUITY OF BULGARIA'S FRIENDLY POLICY TOWARD GREECE. IGNORING BULGARIAN ASSISTANCE TO GREEK COMMUNISTS IN 1947/48 IT SKIPS LIGHTLY TO 1954 WHEN REESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH GREECE IS DESCRIBED AS HAVING "BREACHED THE COLD-WAR LINE WHICH THE IMPERIALIST STATES WERE STUBBORNLY FOLLOWING AGAINST THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES AND ESPECIALLY AGAINST BULGARIA IN THE BALKAN PART OF THE EUROPEAN SOCIALIST COMMUNITY".

2. THE SIGNING OF AGREEMENTS IN 1964, RD ARTICLE SAYS, "STRUCK A NEW BLOW AT THE PLOTTING AND SPECULATIONS OF IMPERIALIST PROPAGANDA CENTRES WHICH AT THAT TIME WERE CONDUCTING AN UNBRIDLED ANTI-COMMUNIST AND ANTI-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 SOFIA 01888 171206Z

BULGARIAN CAMPAIGN, AIMED MOST AT THE PEACEFUL POLICY

OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA IN THE BALKANS".
NEXT THE ARTICLE CLAIMS CREDIT FOR BULGARIA FOR NOT
HAVING ALLOWED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MILITARY DIC-
TATORSHIP IN 1967 TO LEAD TO A DETERIORATION OF RELA-
TIONS.

3. THIS POINT IS OF SOME INTEREST FROM THE POINT OF
VIEW OF DOCTRINE: BULGARIA DID NOT LIKE THE COLONELS'
REGIME, THE ARTICLE SAYS, BUT PRECISELY BECAUSE OF ITS
"PROFOUND SYMPATHY FOR THE GREEK PEOPLE AND THEIR
STRUGGLE FOR THE REESTABLISHMENT OF THEIR DEMOCRATIC
FREEDOMS AND RIGHTS (IT) DID ALL IT COULD NOT TO LET
THE AGREEMENTS SIGNED IN 1964 BECOME SCRAPS OF PAPER
BUT TO MAKE THEM MATERIALIZE SO THAT THE PROCESS OF IM-
PROVEMENT OF BULGARIAN-GREEK RELATIONS AND THE RELATIONS
AMONG THE BALKAN COUNTRIES COULD BECOME TRULY IRREVERS-
IBLE".

4. NEXT CAME THE COUP D'ETAT IN CYPRUS INSTIGATED BY THE MILITARY
JUNTA, RESULTING IN ITS OVERTHROW AND "A SERIOUS INCREASE
OF TENSION IN THE AREA OF THE BALKANS AND THE EASTERN
MEDITERRANEAN. ... THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA AND
ALL OTHER SOCIALIST STATES WITH THE WHOLE PEACE-LOVING
AND DEMOCRATIC WORLD PUBLIC CONDEMNED THE ACTION OF
THE JUNTA AND OF NATO'S EXTREMISTS AGAINST THE REPUBLIC
OF CYPRUS". THE DECISION TO WITHDRAW FROM MILITARY
COOPERATION IN NATO IS SEEN AS AN INTEGRAL ELEMENT OF
"DEMOCRATIZATION OF THE GREEK POLITICAL AND PUBLIC LIFE".

5. "IMPERIALIST CENTRES AND THE PROPAGANDA MACHINES OF
SOME NATO AND CIA CIRCLES WERE MOST INFURIATED BY THIS
DECISION AND BLEW THE TRUMPET OF THE WORN-OUT OLD SONG
OF BOLSHIE DANGER OR THE DANGER FROM THE NORTH WHICH WAS
THREATENING GREECE DUE TO HER REFUSAL TO SHELTER UNDER
THE US ATOMIC UMBRELLA", BUT GREECE HAS NOTHING TO FEAR
SINCE "THE BULGARIAN SOCIALIST FOREIGN POLICY AND DIPLO-
MACY ARE INSPIRED BY THE GREAT HUMANE POLICY AND DIPLO-
MACY OF LENINISM AND MARXISM AND PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONAL-
ISM AND CAN HAVE NOTHING IN COMMON WITH THE AGGRESSIVE
AND CONQUERING AMBITIONS OF IMPERIALISM".

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PAGE 03 SOFIA 01888 171206Z

6. COMMENT: THE FACT THAT BULGARIA DID NOT ALLOW THE
ADVENT OF THE COLONELS TO INFLUENCE THE BROAD LINES OF ITS
POLICY TOWARD GREECE IS, IN OTHER WORDS, USED AS AN ARGU-
MENT TO DISPEL ANY GREEK FEARS ABOUT ITS FUTURE INTENTIONS.
THE ARTICLE TRIES TO TRACE A STRAIGHT LINE (IGNORING SOME
PRETTY HORRENDOUS DEVIATIONS) OF BULGARIAN BENEVOLENCE
TOWARD GREECE, TO ENCOURAGE THAT COUNTRY TO RESIS THE

ARGUMENT THAT THE SECURITY OF ITS NORTHERN BORDER REQUIRES
CONTINUING ASSOCIATION IN THE ALLIANCE. REFERENCE TO
"NATO CIRCLES" IN CONNECTION WITH CYPRUS IS OF COURSE
NOT NEW AND FOLLOWS THE LINE FIRST LAID DOWN BY TASS;
BUT THE REFERENCE TO "CIA CIRCLES" IS MORE SPECIFIC
THAN HAS BEEN USUAL HERE IN RECENT MONTHS.

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